

Purpose: CERCLA Site Inspection

Site: Fineline Paint Corporation
12200 Los Nietos Road
Santa Fe Springs, California 90670

Site CERCLA ID Number: CAD008263048

Inspection ID Number: C(87)/C-184

TDD Number: F98702013

Program Account Number: FCA0554SAA

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Date of Inspection: August 6, 1987

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Report Date: July 1, 1988

FIT/Review/Concurrence:

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1. INTRODUCTION

A Site Inspection (SI) of Fine Line Paint Corporation (Fine Line) was conducted on August 6, 1987, pursuant to the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Technical Directive Document F9-8702-013. This SI was initiated based on a Preliminary Assessment (PA) done by Ecology and Environment, Inc. (E & E) in January 1987. Fine Line came to the attention of the EPA because the site has a history of discharges of paint waste to the ground surface. In April 1969, a Notice of Violation (NOV) was issued by the Los Angeles County Department of Engineers (LADE) for allowing paint mixing wash water to drain onto unpaved areas. In January 1977, a NOV was issued by the LADE ordering Fine Line to remove powder residue along the railroad track in the rear of the property. A subsequent visual inspection by the LADE showed the area to be clean, however no cleanup information was found.

In 1980 the Los Angeles County Health Department (LACHD) observed paint waste running down the driveway and in 1982 noted three areas of waste discharge at the rear of the Fine Line property. Fine Line was ordered by the LACHD to remove contaminated soil, however it is not known whether the contaminated soil was removed.

This SI was conducted to gather information on historical waste-management practices and local environmental factors to determine whether a potential threat exists to public health or the environment. This work was performed by E & E's Field Investigation Team (FIT) under contract to the EPA, through the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA).

In order to collect background information on the site, FIT personnel contacted individuals at several state and local agencies and conducted file searches at the LADE, the California Department of Health Services (DOHS) and the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD).

Individuals were contacted for information on: permits, past inspections, wells in the area and groundwater usage. Individuals and organizations

that were contacted are listed in Appendix A (see contact log).

2. SITE CHARACTERIZATION

2.1 Site Location

Fine Line is located at 12200 Los Nietos Road, Santa Fe Springs, Los Angeles County, California. The site is located in a heavy industrial light residential area. The nearest residential building is located to the northeast of Los Nietos Road.

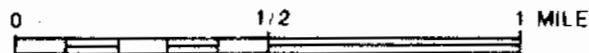
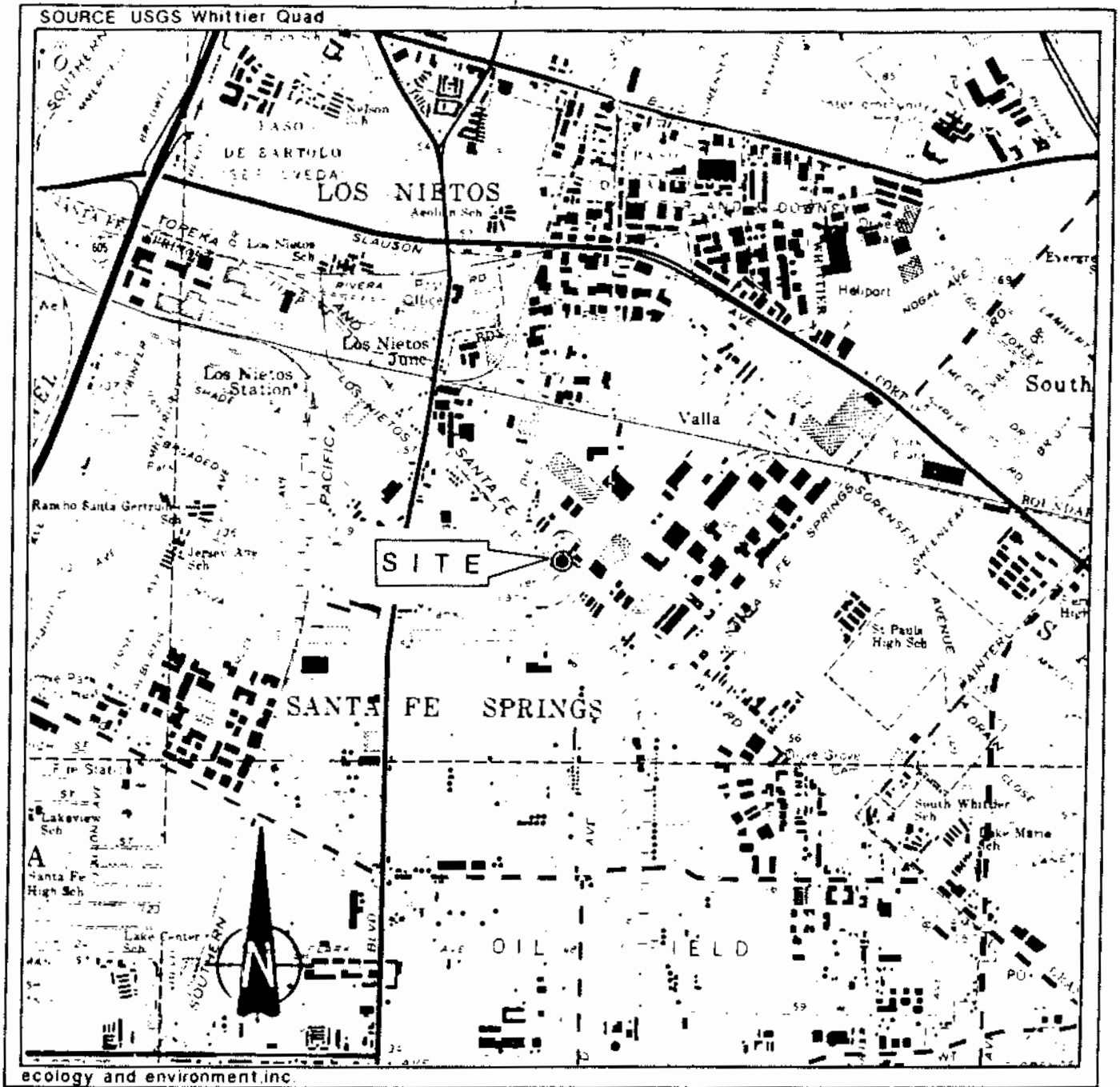
The Atchinson-Topeka Santa Fe Railroad tracks run on the south side of the site. The site is completely paved over with asphalt and concrete. The site is secured with a barbed wire chain-linked fence and is locked at night. The San Gabriel River is located approximately 1.5 miles to the west of the site. (see Site Location Map, Figure 1, Ref. 1).

2.2 Site History and Description

Fine Line has been located in the City of Santa Fe Springs since 1953, manufacturing water-base and solvent-base house paint. Fine Line is a private corporation started by Mr. Art Holst Sr. and Mr. Ted Holst. Mr. Art Holst Jr. became owner and president of Fine Line in 1976 and is the current owner-operator of the company.

Fine Line acquired three adjacent properties in the City of Santa Fe Springs. Parcel No. 2 was rented from 1953 to approximately 1961 from Mr. John K. Brice Company (see Facility Map, Figure 2). In approximately 1961 Fine Line purchased Parcel No. 2 from Mr. John K. Brice Co. In approximately 1970 Parcel No. 3 was purchased by Fine Line from Mr. John K. Brice Co. In approximately 1983 Fine Line purchased Parcel No. 1 from J.P. McDonald. Mr. McDonald owned the property since approximately 1954 storing pipe supplies on-site. The parcels are completely fenced (chain linked) and locked at night.

Prior to Fine Line property was utilized as a gravel rock quarry (1).



Quadrangle Location

FIGURE 1
SITE LOCATION MAP

FINE LINE PAINT CORP.
12200 LOS NIETOS ROAD
SANTA FE SPRINGS, CA

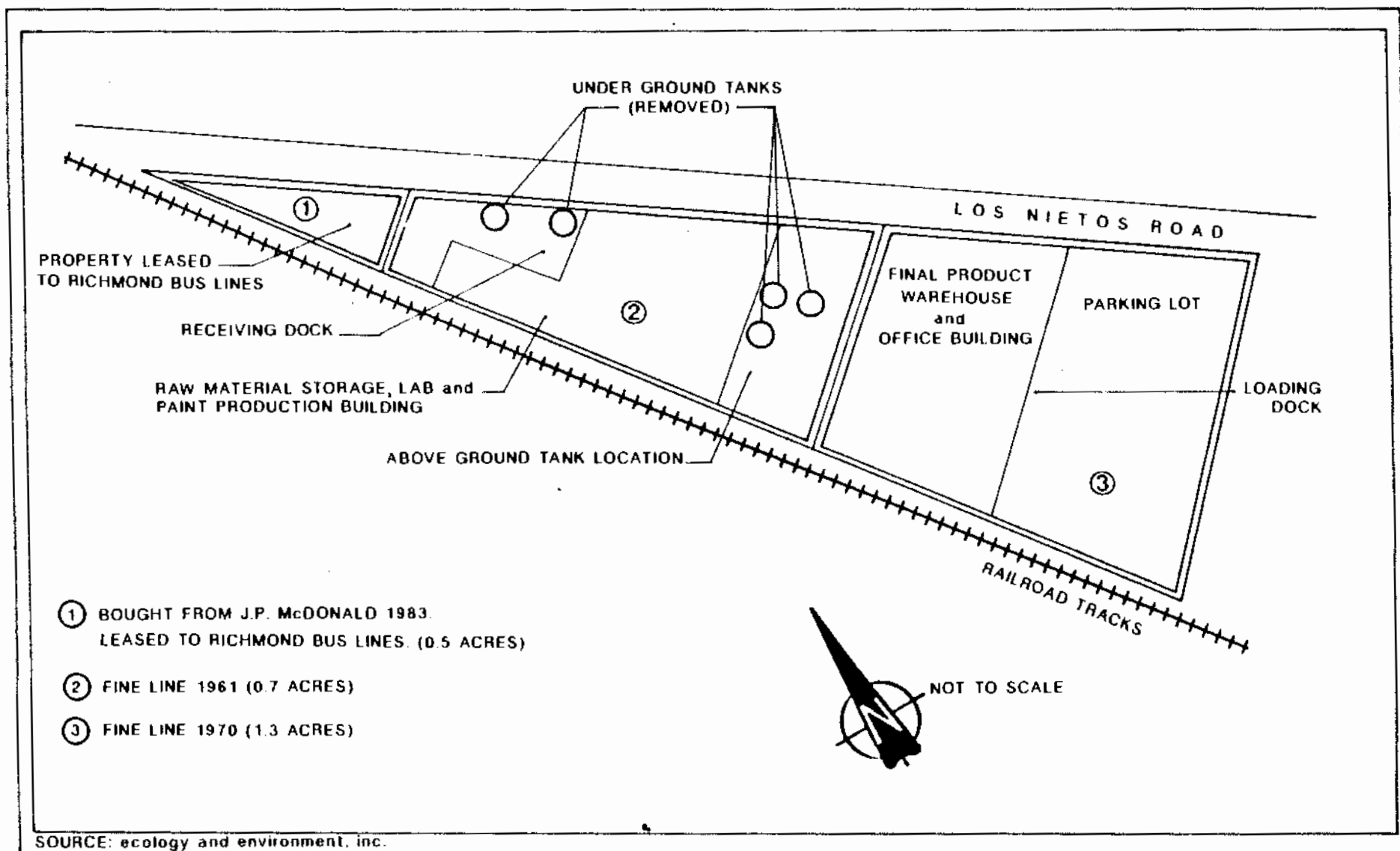


FIGURE 2
FACILITY MAP

FINE LINE PAINT CORP.
12200 LOS NIETOS ROAD
SANTA FE SPRINGS, CA

Parcel No. 1

Parcel No. 1 has been leased to Richmond Bus Lines since Fine Line purchased the property. Parcel No. 1 is approximately 0.5 acres (1).

Parcel No. 2

Located on Parcel No. 2 are: above-ground tanks; raw material storage, lab, and paint production building and a receiving dock. Parcel No. 2 is approximately 0.7 acres. The above-ground tanks were installed in approximately 1968 and store raw materials utilized in the paint production (see Facility Map, Figure 2). The capacities and contents of the tanks are listed in Table 1.

TABLE 1
Above-Ground Tanks

<u>Tank Contents</u>	<u>Capacity (gallons)</u>	<u>Tank Material</u>
Texanol Glycol	1,000	Steel
Texanol Glycol	1,000	Steel
PUA	5,000	Fiberglass
A64	2,000	Steel
Oil/Resin	5,000	Steel
Oil	2,000	Steel
Oil	5,000	Steel
Oil	1,000	Steel
Trichloroethene	10,000	Steel

Source: FIT Site Inspection, 8/6/87.

The above-ground tanks are located in a concrete area. There are no berms in the above-ground tank area (1).

Located on Parcel No.2 is a building utilized as a raw material storage

area, a lab, and a process area for paint production. The raw materials stored on-site with monthly quantities are listed in Appendix C, Supporting Documents. The raw materials consist of: resins, solvents, pigments, oils and chemical additives. These raw materials are stored on-site in the distributor containers. Solvents are stored in 350-gallon Tote-Bins on-site.

Also located in the building is the paint lab. The lab is utilized for checking the paint during and after manufacturing. The lab checks the paint for viscosity, high dry time and viscosity.

Located in the paint production area are: mixing tanks, sand mills, blending mills and high speed dispersion grinding mills. Currently there are fifteen to twenty mixing tanks varying in size from 100, 200, 300, 600 and 1000 gallons.

The paint production area is completely paved with concrete. The mixing tanks are moved by forklift on-site.

There are two sand mills utilized in the paint manufacturing process. The sand mills are only used with manufacturing oil-base enamels. The size of the sand mills are seven and fifteen gallons.

There are five blending mills on-site. All five are rated at 20 horsepower (hp).

There are six high speed dispersion grinding mills on-site. The quantities and ratings are: two-100 hp, one-60 hp, one-50 hp, and two-25 hp.

Located on Parcel No. 2 were five underground tanks used for storing raw materials and fuel. The tanks were removed in December 1986 (see 2.6 Remedial Action). The contents and capacities of the underground tanks are listed in Table 2.

TABLE 2
Underground Tanks

<u>Contents</u>	<u>Capacity (gallons)</u>	<u>Installation Date</u>	<u>Contaminants Detected In Soil Under Tank</u>
Naptha Thinner	2,000	Not Known	Yes
Naptha Thinner	2,000	1947	Yes
Mineral Spirits	10,000	Not Known	Yes
Diesel Fuel	4,000	Not Known	Yes
Gasoline	1,000	1969	No

Source: FIT Site Inspection, 8/6/87.

(See Appendix C, Supporting Documents for the constituents of the mineral spirits and the Naptha thinner).

The two naptha thinner tanks and the mineral spirit tank were located in the same tank pit, while the two fuel tanks were located in separate tank pits.

Parcel No. 3

Located on Parcel No. 3 are a parking lot and an office/final product storage building. Parcel No. 3 is approximately 1.3 acres (1). Final products are stored/distributed in one gallon and five gallon containers. Final products are transported on-site via forklift and the final product is either delivered or picked up (1).

2.3 Process Description

Fine Line manufactures a variety of colored water base and oil/solvent base house paints. The current yearly output of final product is approximately 625,000 gallons. Prior to 1987 paint batches manufactured were 80% water-base paint and 20% oil/solvent base paint. Since 1987 the output is 90% water base paints and 10% oil/solvent base paints. On the average seven different paint batches are produced a day, approximately 2,300 gallons.

The paint batches range from 100 gallons to 1000 gallons. The maximum batch volume for an oil/solvent paint is 300 gallons where for a water base batch it is 1000 gallons.

The constituents of paint are resins, solvents, chemical additives and pigments. The raw chemicals used are presented in Appendix C, Supporting Documents.

To produce the paints, the ingredients are weighed and then blended in mixing tanks. After mixing, a mill is used to completely wet the pigment particles. The lab personnel check the paint for viscosity, color and high dry time. Then, if the paint mixture has the desired final properties the mixture is containerized in one and five gallon distributor containers (see Process Flowchart, Figure 3).

The mills and mixing tanks are cleaned between batches with approximately four to fifteen gallons of either water or solvent. Water is used to clean equipment utilized for a water base batch and a solvent is used for equipment utilized in a oil/solvent base batch. The solvent is a paint thinner (1).

The cleaning water and cleaning solvent is stored and utilized in the next identical batch.

Fine Line generates approximately 100 gallons a month of rework paint. Rework paint is paint that is manufactured on-site that does not have the final desired paint qualities. An example is off color paint. The rework paint is stored for less than a month on-site and is utilized in a paint batch for which it can be reworked in (1).

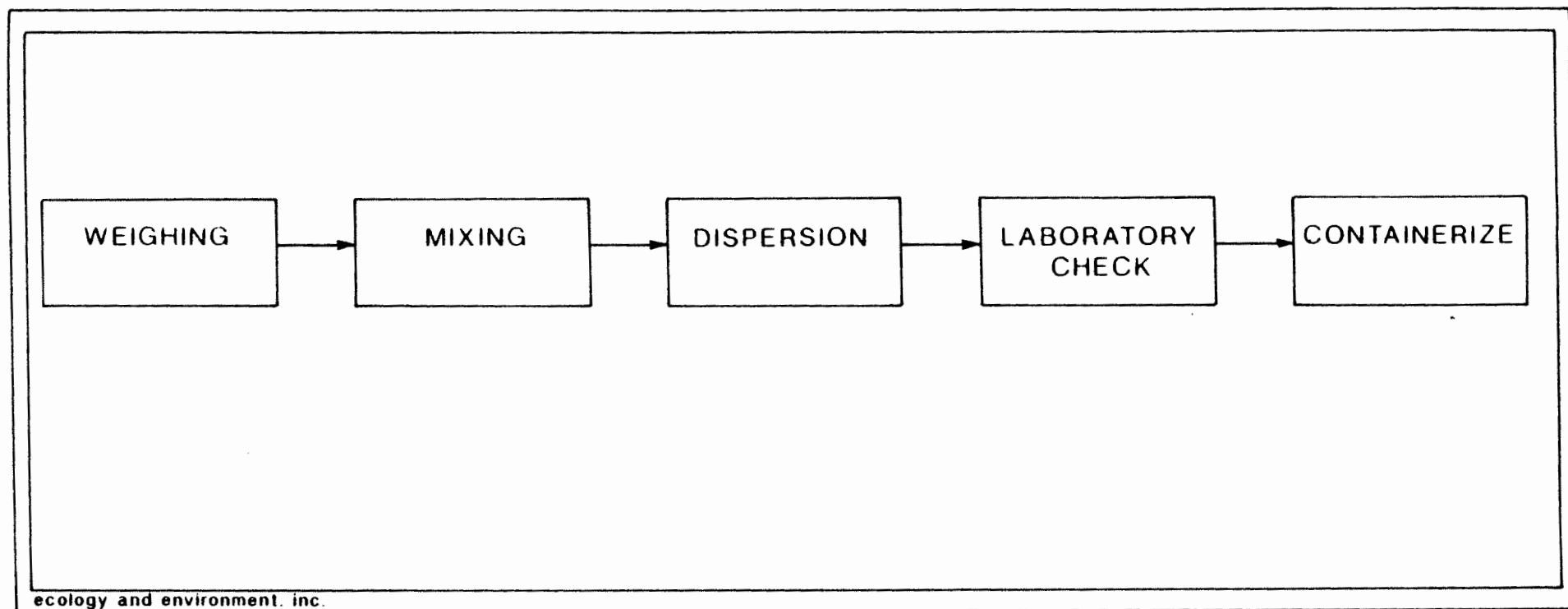


FIGURE 3
PROCESS FLOWCHART

2.4 Waste Management Practices

There are two different waste management practice time periods: 1953-1980 and 1980 to current time. From 1953 to 1980 Fine Line's disposal practice was to dispose of trash waste in on-site trash bins. The trash bins would be disposed of in the Rio Hondo Municipal Dump. Once a year approximately 100 gallons of wastewater would be dumped on a paved area on-site and allowed to dry. The excess solid/sludge waste would be thrown away with the regular trash. The trash was transported by the city's trash trucks (1).

Since 1980 two trash bins containing cardboard boxes, trash, and pigment distributor bags are picked up daily by Consolidated Disposal Services (CDS) (office located across the street from Fine Line at 12235 Los Nietos Road) and disposed of at a municipal dump. It is not known at which dump the trash is disposed.

Since 1980 solidified solid/sludge waste from the paint manufacturing process is transported by Al Rios (EPA ID# CAD000628024) located at 12235 Los Nietos Road, Santa Fe Springs, CA. The quantity of solidified waste transported is not known. The waste is disposed at Casmalia and Kettleman Landfills. The solidified waste is stored on-site for less than thirty days and is located in a secure designated area (see Appendix D, Photodocumentation).

2.5 Enforcement History and Permits

In April 1969, a Notice of Violation (NOV) was issued by the Los Angeles County Department of Engineers (LADE), which is part of the Public Works Department, for allowing paint mixing wash water to drain into unpaved areas. In January 1977, a NOV was issued by the LADE ordering Fine Line to remove powder residue from along the railroad tracks located at the rear of the property. A subsequent visual inspection by the LADE inspectors noticed the area to be clean however, no cleanup information was found. Fine Line representatives stated that workers of Fine Line dug up the areas where stains were observed and disposed of the waste at the Rio Hondo

Municipal Landfill (1). LADE inspects Fine Line approximately once a year.

On December 24 to December 31, 1986, five underground storage tanks were excavated at Fine Line by Petroleum Industries Consultants (PIC) (see Facility Map, Figure 2 and Underground Tanks, Table 2).

A total of ten soil samples were taken from beneath the underground tanks as required by LADE specified by Permit #2121B. Elevated levels of total petroleum hydrocarbons were found. Since soil on-site was contaminated, the LADE requested that further soil be analyzed to establish the extent and quantity of soil contamination and if groundwater was affected. Therefore, on January 22, 1987 four vertical exploratory borings were drilled to a depth of 21 to 40 feet with soil samples taken at ten-foot intervals.

No contamination was found in the soil samples taken at ten feet. PIC determined that contamination was limited laterally to the tank pit and that vertically soil contamination went five feet below the tanks (see 2.6 Remedial Action).

In 1980 the Los Angeles County Health Department (LACHD) observed paint waste running down the Fine Line driveway and in 1982 noted three areas of waste discharge at the rear of Fine Lines property. Fine Line was ordered to remove the contaminated soil at the rear of the property. Fine Line representatives stated that the contaminated soil was dug up and containerized in fifty five gallon drums and transported to either Kettleman or Casmalia Landfill by Al Rios (EPA ID# CAD000628024) (1). The LACHD inspects Fine Line approximately once a year.

Fine Line is permitted by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) for mixing tanks, milling machines, storage tanks and a baghouse. Fine Line is inspected yearly by the SCAQMD (1). There are no violations on record.

Fine Line is inspected twice a year by the Santa Fe Springs Fire Department. Fire Department representatives were on-site when the five

underground tanks were removed (1).

Fine Line is permitted under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) as a generator. Fine Line received notification as a generator on June 30, 1980 (3).

2.6 Remedial Action

On December 24 to December 31, 1986, Fine Line contracted Petroleum Industries Consultants (PIC) to remove five underground tanks on-site. Two 2,000 gallon underground tanks containing naptha thinner and one 10,000 gallon underground tank containing mineral spirits located in the same tank pit were excavated (see Appendix C, Supporting Documents for constituents of thinner and spirits). Also a 1,000 gallon underground tank containing gasoline and one 4,000 gallon underground tank containing diesel fuel were excavated (see Facility Map, Figure 3).

On-site overseeing the excavation and removal of the underground tank was an inspector from the Santa Fe Springs Fire Department. A backhoe was used to remove soil above and beside the tanks. The tanks were loaded on trucks and transported to 227 Lecouvreur, Wilmington, CA.

Prior to transporting each tank's sides and bottom were scraped to remove excess soil. None of the tanks had any obvious holes or cracks; there was however odorous soil underlying the tank pit (see Appendix C, Supporting Documents). Both of the fuel tank pits had no obvious signs of soil contamination.

In accordance with the underground tank permit #2121B, issued by LADE, a total of ten soil samples were recovered from under the tanks. Two samples were taken beneath each tank at a depth, where possible, of two feet. The soil samples were analyzed for total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH) using EPA Method 8015 and EPA 418.1 The results are listed in Table 3 Underground Tank Soil Results.

TABLE 3
UNDERGROUND TANK SOIL RESULTS

Sample ID	Level (mg/kg)		Sampling Date
	(EPA 8015)	(EPA 418.1)	
1A Naptha Tank	6,600o	-	12/31/86
1B Naptha Tank	13,000	-	12/31/86
2A Naptha Tank	3,100	-	12/31/86
2B Naptha Tank	13,000	-	12/31/86
3A Thinner Tank	-	-	12/24/86
3B Thinner Tank	100	-	12/24/86
4A Diesel Tank	-	7	12/31/86
4B Diesel Tank	-	330	12/31/86
5A Gasoline Tank	-	-	12/31/86
5B Gasoline Tank	-	-	12/31/86

Source: PIC, Tank Removal Geologic Report
(see Appendix C Supporting Documents for exact soil sample locations).

Since soil contamination was encountered, LADE requested that further soil samples be taken to establish the extent of soil contamination and to see if groundwater was affected. Therefore, PIC installed four exploratory borings on January 22, 1987 to establish the vertical and lateral extent of contamination. Three borings were installed in the thinner and mineral spirit tank pit and one in the diesel tank pit (see Appendix C, Supporting Documents). Borings one and two were drilled to a depth of 40 feet below the surface and borings three and four were drilled to a depth of 21.5 feet. The borings were sampled at ten foot intervals and analyzed for TPH. The three boring samples taken in the mineral spirit and thinner tank pit had levels of TPH below the detection limit of one part per million (ppm). Samples taken from the diesel fuel boring detected TPH at concentrations less than 4.0 ppm.

An attempt was made by PIC to excavate the contaminated soil from the thinner/spirits tank pit on February 26, 1987. A backhoe excavated to a depth of 15 feet below the surface before reaching the backhoe extension length. The contaminated soil was transported on-site to the northside of the property where it was spread thinly as possible. On-site analysis of soil located in the bottom of the excavation showed still obvious signs of contamination, therefore no soil samples were sent to a lab. Instead the following remediation proposal was recommended to LADE.

REMEDIATION PROPOSAL

This remediation proposal evolved upon consideration of the following conclusions:

1. Most likely, naptha-thinner contamination under this site has not impacted groundwater.
2. Operation of a long term passive soil farm on-site would be logistically difficult because of the volume of soil and the disruption to business operations.
3. The volatile nature of naptha-thinner prompts consideration of "soil venting" to remediate contaminated soil.

As a result, the following remediation measures are proposed:

1. Backfill and compact the tank pit with both clean and contaminated soil previously excavated. Contaminated soil would be placed in the pit first so that clean soil near the surface would provide an appropriate medium in which to cement casing.
2. Drilling would continue below 40 feet until either groundwater is reached or soil is no longer contaminated. The borings would be core-sampled at 10-foot intervals to total depth. Both borings would be completed with 4" PVC slotted casing used as "air venting" recovery

wells using standard EPA recovery, storage, transport, and chain of custody procedures. At least 10 feet of near surface blank casing would be cemented in place.

3. A "soil venting" operation would commence within 30 days of completing the recovery wells.
4. After at least two pore volumes of vapors have been extracted from the contaminated soil, soil venting operations will be halted to allow the wells to "recover" for a few days. At this time, vapor samples will be recovered from the wells for quantitative analysis to determine the success of the procedure. Once volatile components consistently fall below background levels (100 ppm) the recovery operation will be concluded and deemed successful.
5. A report documenting completion of all proposed operations, laboratory results, etc. will be submitted and signed by a California registered geologist.
6. After receiving approval from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, Hazardous Waste Division, the two recovery wells will be abandoned (filled with cement) according to Los Angeles County Health Department regulations.

Currently the recovery wells are still operating (1). See Appendix C, Supporting Documents for PIC reports.

3. ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

3.1 Physical Surroundings

Fine Line is located in Santa Fe Springs, California. The site is an active paint manufacturing plant. The area in the immediate vicinity of the site is heavy industry. An Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railroad track runs south of the site. Within a three-mile radius of the site is a mixture of commercial, residential, and industrial buildings.

There are no wetlands, critical habitats, or nature preserves within a three-mile radius of the site (4). The one-year, 24-hour rainfall for the region is two inches (5). Net precipitation for the months of October-April is two inches (6).

The site is physiographically located within the Santa Fe Springs Plain of the Central Basin hydrologic unit in the Los Angeles Coastal Plain (7). The Santa Fe Springs Plain is the surface expression of a structural uplift, a northwest-trending anticlinal dome, and is a continuation of anticlinal folds structurally composing the Coyote Hills uplift, a northwest-trending anticlinal dome, and is a continuation of anticlinal folds structurally composing the Coyote Hills uplift to the southeast (7). The La Habra and Norwalk northwest-trending synclines (structural troughs) border the plain on the northeast and southwest, respectively.

3.2 Geology/Soils

Surficial soils in the vicinity of the site belong to the Perkins-Rincon association (8). These soils are well-drained, have low permeability and are over five feet in depth. Perkins soils range in color from brown to reddish-brown and consist of gravelly loam or light clay to cobbly alluvium. Rincon soils consist of dark-grayish-brown silty clay-loam subsoils. This surface material overlies a yellowish-brown and white, strongly calcareous silty clay-loam. Soils of the Perkins-Rincon association are classified for use as residential development, field crops, or orchards (8).

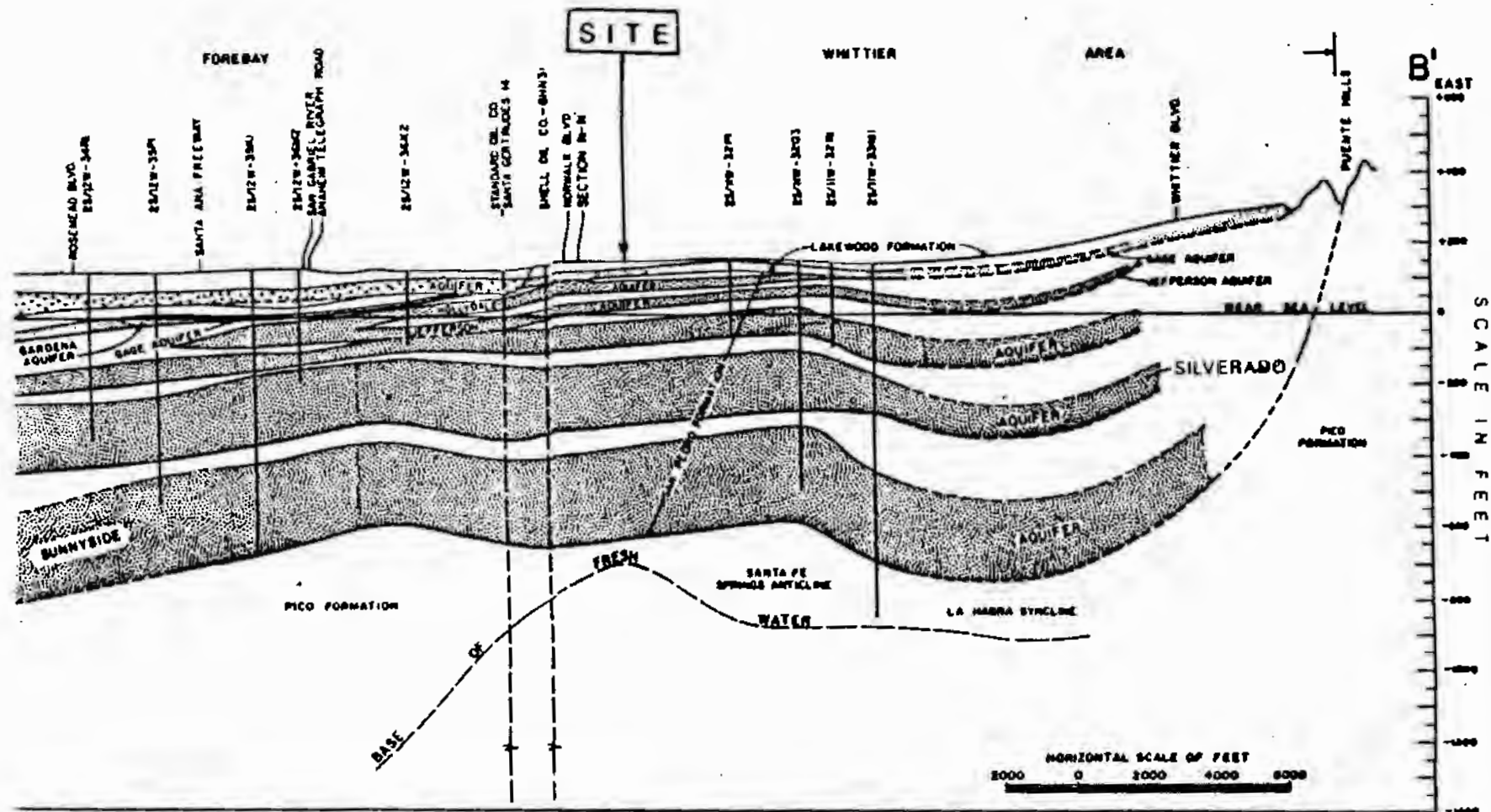
3.3 Hydrology

3.3.1 Groundwater

The hydrogeologic regime beneath the area consists of clays, silts, sands, and gravels of the Lower Pleistocene San Pedro Formation, the Upper Pleistocene Lakewood Formation, and Recent Alluvium (7). See Figure 4 for the Idealized Geologic Section of the region. Water-bearing units of the San Pedro Formation are the Sunnyside, Silverado, Lynwood, Jefferson, and Hollydale aquifers. The Jefferson and Hollydale aquifers eventually merge into the Lynwood Aquifer from south to north across the crest of the Santa Fe Springs anticline (7). In the Lakewood Formation, the Gage and Exposition aquifers are present. This formation outcrops in the central portion of the Santa Fe Springs Plain (7). Sediments of the Gaspar Aquifer occur at the base of the Recent Alluvium and flank the northern and southern portions of the plain, within the synclines (7).

Groundwater depth and flow direction underneath Fine Line are not clearly known. Driller's logs of water wells in the immediate vicinity indicate the static water level is between 38-97 feet below ground surface (9, 10, 11, 12, 13). Driller's logs for wells near the site indicate that the Bellflower Aquiclude is present. The identifying characteristics of the aquiclude in the vicinity of the site are the presence of yellow and blue silts and clays between 30-70 feet (9, 10, 11, 12, 12). The importance of the aquiclude stems from the fact that it is assumed to have a low permeability, thereby restricting the downward migration of potential contaminants to aquifers of concern. The Bellflower Aquiclude is approximately 20 feet thick in the region near the site (7).

SOURCE: State of Calif Dept of Water Resources



LEGEND

[Symbol] AQUIFERS AND DEEPER UNDIFFERENTIATED FORMATIONS
 [Symbol] AQUIFERS IN RECENT ALLUVIUM (INCLUDES THE CASPARI AND BALLONA AQUIFERS)

[Symbol] AQUIFERS IN LAKEWOOD FORMATION (INCLUDES THE ARTESIA, EXPOSITION, SAGE, AND GARDENA AQUIFERS)
 [Symbol] AQUIFERS IN SAN PEDRO FORMATION (INCLUDES THE HOLLYDALE, JEFFERSON, LYWOOD, SILVERADO, AND BUNNYSIDE AQUIFERS)

[Symbol] WATER WELLS
 [Symbol] OIL WELLS

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FIGURE 4
IDEALIZED GEOLOGIC SECTION B - B'

There are 21 municipal wells within three miles of the site (9, 10, 11, 12, 14). Driller's logs for the wells indicate that all the wells are perforated below the Bellflower Aquiclude (9, 10, 11, 12). These driller's logs are included in Appendix C. Table 4 lists the pertinent information on these wells.

The City of Santa Fe Springs wells listed below in Table 4 supply the entire city. There are approximately 5000 service connections in the system. Santa Fe Springs and the Metropolitan Water District (MWD) blend their water and they serve approximately 10,000 residents and 100,000 workers with these wells. The ratio of MWD water to Santa Fe Springs supplied water is 50/50 in 1987, while it will be 60/40 next year. MWD water is the alternative drinking water source if Santa Fe Springs water becomes contaminated (9).

The Southern California Water Company (SCWC) water wells listed above in Table 4 (with the exception of Meyer) make up the entire supply for the Norwalk system. This system supplies 8893 service connections. These wells are mixed with MWD water, but the mixture ratio is not known. MWD probably could not meet the entire water demand for the region (10).

TABLE 4
WATER WELL INFORMATION

State Well Designation	Owner and Well Designation	Total Depth (ft.)	Water Table (ft.)	Perfed Zone (ft.)	Well Log Y/N
2S/11W-30R03S	SFS #1	900	74	200-288 300-900	N
2S/12W-25Q05S	SFS #304W1	518	74	314-321 453-457 485-494	N
3S/11W-06D3	SFS #4	780	66	300-340 380-580 620-760	N
2S/12W-23B4	PR #3	586	-	-	N
2S/12W-23B8	PR #4	600	-	-	N
2S/12W-26D7	PR #5	611	-	-	N
2S/12W-26E3	PR #6	492	-	-	N
2S/12W-2601	PR #7	302	66	221-233 251-263	Y
2S/12W-36M6	PR #8	630	91	277-290 565-584	Y
2S/12W-25M1	PR #9	514	67	424-468	Y
2S/12W-25G2	PR #11	468	63	250-272 313-354 406-422 451-462	Y
2S/12W-25G1	PR #12	520	44	242-272 306-346 438-446	Y
3S/11W-07E01	SCWC PIONEER #1	237	-	193-216	Y
3S/11W-07E02	SCWC PIONEER #2	565	65	196-206 460-472	Y
3S/12W-12A02	SCWC PIONEER #3	252	94	191-218	Y
	SCWC MEYER	NO INFORMATION AVAILABLE			

TABLE 4 (continued)

State Well Designation	Owner and Well Designation	Total Depth (ft.)	Water Table (ft.)	Perfed Zone (ft.)	Well Log Y/N
3S/12W-02R01	SCWC Studebaker	391	-	193-198 277-279 346-361	Y
2S/11W-19M04S	LHWD #2	347		75-95 230-305	Y
2S/11W-19F03S	LHWD #5	633		75-85 200-211 245-289 548-580 600-611	Y
2S/11W-19M01S	LHWD #9	728		184-188 261-294 350-382 458-463 630-635 645-654 670-698	Y
2S/11W-19F01S1	LHWD #8	650		120-131 175-185 199-212 224-258 265-285 316-322 345-376 455-460 550-572 578-592 615-625	Y

Legend for Table 4

SFS = City of Santa Fe Spring
PR = City of Pico Rivera
SCWC = Southern California Water Company
LHWD = La Habra Water District
WELL LOG = Driller's Log Available (Y/N)

The City of Pico Rivera's system has 9000+ service connections, with no MWD connections. The system serves approximately 36,000 people. Only one well in the system is within three miles of Fine Line. It is unknown where Pico Rivera would get an alternative source of water if this well became contaminated, but it would probably be from MWD (11).

The La Habra Water District (LHWD) operates four wells within three miles of the site. Seventy percent of the well water is for the LHWD and 30% is for the Orchard Dale Water District (ODWD). LHWD mixes the well water with 50% MWD water and the ODWD mix their water with 70% MWD water. LHWD supplies drinking water for approximately 5800 people and ODWD supplies drinking water for approximately 15,000-18,000 people. Well # 2S/11W-19 mo4s has PCE detected in it.

Sept. 5, 1985	.6 ppb
Oct. 29, 1985	1.7 ppb
March 4, 1987	5.9 ppb
March 20, 1987	N.D.
June 3, 1987	6.4 ppb
June 25, 1987	6.2 ppb

3.3.2 Surface Water

The San Gabriel River runs approximately 1.5 miles west of the site. It is concrete lined and channelized in the region near the site (15). The river is not used for recreational, domestic, or industrial purposes downstream of the site until it discharges into Alamitos Bay approximately 12 miles downstream. The San Gabriel River is primarily used for spreading for groundwater recharge and flood control upstream from the site. There are no surface water intakes on the river (15). Surface water on-site discharges into storm drains located on Los Nietos Road. The storm drains discharge into the Pacific Ocean.

La Canada Verde Creek runs approximately 0.75 miles east of the site. La Canada Verde Creek enters Coyote Creek, then the San Gabriel River, and eventually discharges into the Pacific Ocean. La Canada Verde Creek is not

used for recreation, drinking water, or industrial purposes downstream of the site (15). The surface water intakes from Coyote Creek are not used either (16).

4. HRS FACTORS

The following Hazard Ranking System Factors are used to rank an uncontrolled hazardous waste site, according to Uncontrolled Hazardous Waste Site Ranking System, A Users Manual (17).

- o Observed Release

There have been no known observed releases of any hazardous substances to groundwater, surface water or air.

- o Direct Contact/Fire and Explosion

No incidents of direct contact/fire and explosion have been documented. All raw materials are stored on-site in a secured area. The site is enclosed with a chain-link barbed-wire fence and is locked at night.

- o Groundwater

Groundwater depth below Fine Line is not clearly known, however well logs in the immediate vicinity indicate that static water level is between 38-97 feet below the surface. Depth to aquifer of concern is approximately 400 feet below the surface. There are 21 municipal wells within three miles of the site supplying over 100,000 people (See 3.3.1 Groundwater).

- o Surface Water

The San Gabriel River runs approximately 1.5 miles west of the site. It is concrete lined and discharges into the Los Alamitos Bay, Pacific Ocean, approximately twelve miles downstream. Surface water on-site discharges into storm drains located on Los Nietos Road. The storm drains discharge into the Pacific Ocean.

- o Air Route

There have been no documented observed releases of any hazardous substances to the air.

SUMMARY

Due to lack of any observed release to the groundwater, surface water and air, and low route characteristics scores, this site will not be eligible for inclusion on the National Priorities List (NPL).

5. SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATIVE EFFORTS

5.1 FIT Investigative Efforts

On August 6, 1987, a Site Inspection of Fine Line Paint Corporation was conducted by FIT members Andrew Bristol, Ara Mardirosian and Dan Millison. The primary purpose of this investigation was to collect historical and current information related to the site to determine if a threat to public health or the environment exists. FIT members met with company representatives: Mr. Art Holst Jr. (President) and Mr. Fred Bichler (General Manager). Mr. Holst and Mr. Bichler conducted a tour of the facility and answered questions relating to on-site activities and past Notices of Violations. In addition to the information already presented, the following observations were made:

- o Pigment bags were disposed of in the trash bin on-site. It was noticed that approximately one to five cups of pigment powder were still in the bags (pigment contains heavy metals).
- o There were no apparent stains on the pavement on-site other than grease/oil spots related to cars/trucks parked on the property.
- o No stains were observed on the rear part of the property where the train tracks are located.
- o Photos were taken of the site and are presented in Appendix D, Photo Documentation.

Fine Line will not be eligible for inclusion on the National Priorities List (NPL) due to a low preliminary Hazardous Ranking System (HRS) score. The Bellflower Aquiclude is located approximately thirty feet below the site and is approximately twenty feet thick. The Bellflower Aquiclude acts as a vertical retardant to migration of potential contaminants. Therefore, FIT determined that no sampling was required.

5.2 Other Agency Involvement

FIT determined that no short-term Emergency Removal Response Action was required at Fine Line under the factors listed in the National Contingency Plan (NCP) Section 300.65.

The Los Angeles County Department of Engineers, (LADE) Public Works inspects Fine Line approximately once a year. In April 1969, LADE issued a NOV for allowing paint washwater to drain into unpaved areas. In January 1977, LADE issued a NOV to remove powder residue from along the rear of the property. Fine Line representatives state that the powder residue was dug up and disposed in the regular trash. Currently the LADE is overseeing the remedial action on contaminated soil due to on-site underground tank leaking (see 2.6 Remedial Action).

In 1980 the Los Angeles County Health Department (LACHD) observed paint waste running down the Fine Line driveway and in 1982 noted three areas of waste discharge at the rear of Fine Line's property. LACHD ordered Fine Line to remove contaminated soil. Fine Line representatives stated that the contaminated soil was dug up and disposed of properly (see 2.5 Enforcement History and Permits). The LACHD inspects Fine Line every year.

Fine Line is permitted by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) for mixing tanks, milling machines, storage tanks and a baghouse. SCAQMD inspects Fine Line once a year.

Fine Line is permitted under RCRA as a generator. Fine Line received notification as a generator on June 30, 1980 (3).

Fine Line was recommended by FIT to the LACHD, Hazardous Waste Control Program because Fine Line is a licensed RCRA Generator which is under the jurisdiction of the LACHD. During the FIT site inspection a violation was noticed where pigment bags were thrown away in the regular trash. The pigment bags contained one to five cups of pigment. The constituents of pigments are considered hazardous and therefore should be disposed of as a hazardous material (18).

6. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Fine Line has been located on-site since 1953 manufacturing custom color water base and solvent base paints.

Fine Line came to the attention of the EPA because of past discharges of paint waste to the ground. In April 1969, Fine Line received a NOV from LADE for allowing paint wash water to drain onto unpaved areas on-site. In January 1977, Fine Line received another NOV from the LADE for disposing of a powder residue along the rear of the property. Fine Line representatives dug up the waste and disposed of it in the trash. No information was found on the NOV for washwater discharge on-site.

In 1980 the LACHD observed paint waste running down the Fine Line driveway and in 1982 noted three areas of waste discharge at the rear of the property. No information was found on the liquid paint waste, however Fine Line representatives stated that the waste at the rear of the property was cleaned up and disposed of properly (see 2.4 Waste Management Practices).

Fine Line is listed as a RCRA generator. Therefore, Fine Line was recommended by FIT to the LACHD, Hazardous Waste Control Program because Fine Line is under the jurisdiction of LACHD. During the FIT site inspection a violation was observed which falls under the LACHD. Pigment bags were disposed of in the municipal trash dumpster on-site. The pigment bags still contained a small quantity of pigment powder. The constituents of pigment are considered hazardous and should be disposed of properly.

FIT recommends no further action under CERCLA. This site will not be eligible at this time for inclusion on the National Priorities List (NPL) based on a low preliminary HRS score.

EPA Concurrence

Initial

Date

No Further Action Under CERCLA

gal

7.26.88

Listing Site Inspection
